

Kaizawa interview #5 [?]- June 23, 2000

I called my sister-in-law Ethel Uchida, wife of Harry; Harry, typed reports for Earle (Ernst). Ethel told me **Fujitani** was the secretary to (Robert) Spaulding and also for Walter Mihata, the last Pictorial head.

I have to locate Kimiko Sugawara, I will call James Furukawa who will know her number. Pechkov [I need to find the list of translators.]

I don't know if I can locate **Midori Kawaguchi** who was the first kamishibai supervisor. **Misawa** is in Palo Alto.

You know the first kissing scene in kabuki? The actress was Mizutani Yaeko. **[It wasn't called kabuki, but rather "musical drama". Even though Ennosuke was in it.]** Her daughter is now Yaeko II.

Faubion (Bowers) was a good friend of a French captain when he was a major. A smart guy, assigned to General; Pechkov [sp?] as an aide. He had his right arm missing.

Stanley (Kaizawa), speaking of EE (Earle Ernst): In one of Earle's (Ernst) letters, he says in my book pp. 258-268 just change the word "censor" to "me" and that is my view.

We are looking at a photo, and Stanley (Kaizawa) identifies the person as "Matsuji" [whom I had identified as Matsujirô. I must identify the photo.]

In 1999, I refused to talk about Earle (Ernst) or FB (Faubion Bowers) to a Japanese correspondent from Engekikai, because I respected both men and did not want to say anything about the controversy between them. This picture is of the correspondent.

Earle (Ernst) and Faubion (Bowers) were on good terms in the beginning. Earle (Ernst) wasn't the only one who was ready to sue Faubion (Bowers). [Who were the others ???]

I don't recall that Earle (Ernst) and Faubion (Bowers) were in the office at the same time. [But they overlapped about five months.]

I knew Hartmann who was in charge of Special Services programs for occupation personnel.

[Looking through play scripts:

October 1945 - "*Futa Omote* etc. "[Need to look at Stanley's (Kaizawa) original to read written comments.]

Perhaps "Approved. No record." ? Is this Earle's (Ernst) handwriting? [Not in October 1945]
[This is a one page synopsis, so maybe Terakoya only had one page synopsis.]

[March 48 - Stanley's (Kaizawa) initials.] Each play brought to us had a grey, cardboard cover.

[October 29, 1945, for November production =dangerously short time. Did producers ever complain?]

Kabuki was handled by Earle (Ernst). I don't recall that we "suppressed" any script. Yes, one musical script, the author asked "doo sureba, jooen dekimasu ka?" and then he made the changes so it could be approved. [This was rare, I think because it was against Earle's (Ernst) policy on approval or disapproval.] But Joe (Joseph Goldstein) was pretty harsh and he often had questions based on the translation by the Japanese employee. It depended on if the translator would pick up on a term. He often went ahead without

asking for explanations. The case of Joe (Joseph Goldstein) and Earle (Ernst) going to see Omoide, the famous play, I mentioned before. They clashed and they went to see it. Earle (Ernst) said the whole theme is anti-war. Playing the kamikaze song set off a red light for Joe (Joseph Goldstein), so Earle (Ernst) said let's go see, and Earle said, "Sorry Joe, there is nothing wrong with this." (See also August 2000 interview line#25)

Earle (Ernst) sort of specialized in kabuki scripts, because he was present at the long conference making up the list of banned/suppressed plays. But I never saw the list. Earle (Ernst) never used it or spoke of it. I learned about the list later. As a staff member, we weren't privy to information the officers had. [Locked, secret filing cabinets.]

These are my initials. And the word "deletion." August 1949. [Did you ever check up to see if the change was made?] Yes we often did.

Once Earle (Ernst) and I went to see the famous kissing scene. You know how they did it? Ennosuke grabs Mizutani, and just as they are about to kiss, he opens his fan, zap, and the audience never saw the kiss. Earle (Ernst) chuckled and walked out.

Umezo became Sadanji.
[Sumizô became Jukai.]

I think (Kenneth) Cameron was replaced by Arthur Mori at the time we moved from Radio Tokyo to Kanto Haiden. I don't recall Arthur ever working in Radio Tokyo.

I have a good translation of Hagoromo and of Kanjincho. [Where are they?]

[Kirare Otomi, March 1948, Minami-za -- why is this script in the Tokyo collection?] Often Shochiku sent us scripts they were going to produce in Kansai or Kyushu, or wherever. As long as the stamp is on the script, it was OK.

[Hikosan Gongen etc. "Suppress. Revenge motivation." JG. 6 July 46.] That G is Goldstein. [Shochiku 70 year history shows no record of an August 1946 production of the play.]

[Mitsukoshi. Passed.] (See also Shochiku Japanese script of Hikosan
http://www.arc.ritsumeit.ac.jp/archive01/theater/image/PB/shochiku/GHQ/K43/A07136/A07136_001.jpg)

The Daiichi Gekijo in Shinjuku was a smallish theatre and we censored sitting in a small room at the back.

Here is *Honcho nijushiko*, submitted 13 days before opening.

Bancho Sara yashiki, suppressed here, is an adjunct to *Chushingura*. In this play Wakasanosuke is killed. Oishi son [Rikiya] is supposed to marry Wakasanosuke's daughter. Someone then attacks Wakasanosuke and causes their house to fall.

This is by Tsubouchi Shoyo [what play?].

After FB (Faubion Bowers) left and before (John) Allyn came, I did the censoring [mid-1948 to January 1949] together with Mitsukado and [Freddie] Yoshida.

[Farewell party for (Earle) Ernst: in the picture with (Faubion) Bowers and (Earle) Ernst--probably the

party picture--The enlisted man is Wakamiya who has been dead a long time. He was in theatrical censorship. The second person from the left in the back row Mr. Saito was the manager of Togeki. He had been a naval captain and was strict with his staff. Far right of picture is Mr. Takahashi, who was head of theatrical division of Shochiku. His liaison man was Yoshida Matsuji, immediately to the right of Earle (Ernst). Yoshida became manager of the Kabuki-za and then manager of the National Theatre. The one to the left of Earle (Ernst) is Nakano, one of Shochiku's managers. Picture was probably taken by Shochiku for PR (Public Relations).

When Earle (Ernst) went to Japan to study for his book, Yoshida [then Kabuki-za manager] let Earle (Ernst) come to Kabuki-za anytime.

Shochiku probably didn't take a picture of that "in your face" farewell party at the end of censorship. At that party Takahashi, Yoshida, Nakano, and Saito were there. It started about six and one by one they got up and left. First Takahashi got up and just left, he didn't say anything but walked out. Then the others. Finally John [Allyn] said, "Hey where is the Shochiku bunch?"

I got discharged in Japan and took home leave for one month. On ship, the government paid the travel. Then I signed a two year contract with home leave every three years.

Radio Tokyo, Kanto Haiden, and then Shisei Kaikan were where theatrical worked. I have three albums from that time.